

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on Monday, 20 December 2010 commencing at 3.00 pm and finishing at 5.00 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Ann Bonner – in the Chair

Councillor Dave Sexon (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Neil Owen
Councillor Alyas Ahmed
Councillor M. Altaf-Khan
Councillor Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor
Councillor Don Seale
Councillor Val Smith
Councillor Nicholas P. Turner
Mrs Galina Kildyushova
Councillor Nick Carter (In place of Councillor Marilyn Badcock)
Councillor Jean Fooks (In place of Councillor Janet Godden)

Other Members in Attendance: Councillor Lynda Atkins
Councillor Louise Chapman, Cabinet member for Children, Young People & Families
Councillor Michael Waine, Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement

Co-opted Members: Mr Chris Bevan, Mrs Sue Matthew

Officers: Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer, Director for Children, Young People & Families, Director for Social & Community Services

The Scrutiny Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda, reports and schedule are attached to the signed Minutes.

101/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

(Agenda No. 1)

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Janet Godden (Councillor Jean Fooks substituting), Councillor Marilyn Badcock (Councillor Nick Carter substituting) and Carole Thomson.

102/10 MINUTES

(Agenda No. 3)

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2010 be considered at the next meeting.

103/10 SPEAKING TO OR PETITIONING THE COMMITTEE

(Agenda No. 4)

The following request to address the meeting had been agreed:

Item 5 - Councillor Linda Atkins

104/10 SERVICE & RESOURCE PLANNING 2011/12 - 2015/16

(Agenda No. 5)

The Committee considered a report (**CH5**) containing the Business Strategies and savings proposed for their service areas.

The proposals for savings to the Children and Young People's (CYP&F) budgets were grouped and considered under four main headings:

- 1. Management Review (including business and administrative functions)**
- 2. Education (including School Improvement and national strategies)**
- 3. Communities (redesign of the Early Intervention Service)**
- 4. Social Care and Safeguarding**

In addition the Committee considered proposals for the Music Service.

Councillor Lynda Atkins expressed concerns in relation to the impact of proposals for youth services in respect of Wallingford. Public transport between Wallingford and Didcot was not easy with no buses in the evening or Sundays. There were also issues around the relationships between young people in Wallingford and Didcot. She feared that there was a band of young people who would not be reached by the proposals.

The Committee considered the savings proposals line by line and **agreed (by 10 votes to 3) to support in principle the proposals for CYP&F. They also supported the proposal for the Music Service.**

In giving their support, members stated that they would wish to be briefed regularly on the roll out of the Early Intervention Centres. In particular members were assured that there would be outreach support provided from the centres.

Further, members would wish to be part of any review that would consider charging families for respite care for disabled children. Members expressed a hope that this could be avoided if possible.

Finally, the committee would wish to monitor closely proposals for changes to the funding of the Equality and Diversity Achievement Service (EDAS) and to be given an

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opportunity to scrutinise the business plan for Outdoor Centres at some time in spring 2011.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing